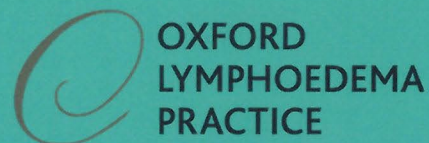




Oxford Lymphoedema Practice

We operate out of the Manor Hospital, the leading private hospital in Oxford. It has ample free car parking for patients and visitors.



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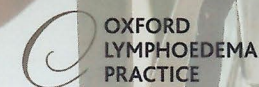
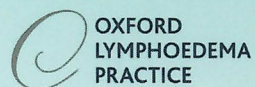
Indocyanine Green Lymphography (ICG) at the Oxford Lymphoedema Practice



At the Oxford Lymphoedema Practice we aim to provide first class care for patients with all forms of lymphoedema.

We specialise in supermicrosurgery for lymphoedema, providing a minimally invasive treatment that is suitable for many patients with lymphoedema. Our surgeons have pioneered supermicrosurgery for lymphoedema in the UK, performing these operations since 2012.

Our state of the art techniques allow our experienced specialists to plan a personalised treatment regime to help with your lymphoedema. The patient is treated with the highest possible standards and offered support throughout their care in a professional and friendly manner.





What is Indocyanine Green (ICG)?

Indocyanine Green is a green medical dye that has been used since the 1950s. It has been used for measuring blood flow in the heart, liver, and the back of the eye.

What is ICG Lymphography?

ICG lymphography uses an injection of a tiny amount of ICG (0.2ml) into the area that is affected by lymphoedema (usually into your foot or your wrist). The ICG is then taken up by the lymphatics, and your lymphatic function can be determined by visualising the ICG using a special infra-red camera system.

When will I get the results?

The results are available immediately – your surgeon will discuss the results with you whilst the scan is performed.



What will happen to me?

The surgeon or nurse will numb the top of the foot or wrist area with a small injection of local anaesthetic into the skin. The ICG will then be injected into this numb area, meaning the injection is painless. You will then wait 30–45 minutes for the ICG to get taken up into the lymphatics – this is a good opportunity for a cup of tea or coffee. The surgeon will then use a special camera held 12 inches from the body to visualise your lymphatics on a screen. You will be able to see your lymphatic function during the consultation.

Are there any risks?

ICG has been used very safely for over 50 years. In the tiny amounts that we use for ICG lymphography, there have never been any reports of adverse events in the medical literature. At much higher doses, for measuring blood flow, very rare allergic reactions have occurred. The area of injection will look green afterwards. It will stay like this for a couple of weeks, occasionally longer. This will not cause you any medical problems, and your body will naturally remove the green colouration.
IMPORTANT: Please tell your surgeon or nurse if you have had an allergy to ICG before.



Are there any alternatives?

The alternative investigation is called lymphoscintigraphy. This uses a radioactive substance to map your lymphatics. There is a waiting list for this procedure, and the results do not give as clear a picture of your lymphatics, meaning your surgeon cannot plan your surgery with as much accuracy. For these reasons, we recommend you have ICG lymphography, rather than lymphoscintigraphy. Please note that for some patients your surgeon may recommend that you undergo other tests such as MRI or lymphoscintigraphy.

I have some questions, who can I ask?

Please ask your surgeon or nurse in the clinic. They will be very happy to answer your questions about ICG Lymphography, or indeed any aspect of your care.